

Student Immunization And Life-Threatening Health Conditions

Immunizations

In order to safeguard the school community from the spread of certain communicable diseases and in recognition that prevention is a means of combating the spread of disease, the board requires a student to present evidence of his/her having been immunized against diseases as required by the Washington State Board of Health.

Exemptions from Immunization

The district shall allow for exemptions from immunization requirements only as allowed for by RCW 28A.210.090.

Meningococcal Disease and Vaccine Information Distribution

The district will provide parents/guardians of students in sixth grade and above with information about meningococcal disease and its vaccine at the beginning of every school year. The information will address the characteristics of the disease; where to find additional information about the disease; vaccinations for children; and current recommendations from the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention regarding receiving the vaccine.

Human Papilloma Virus Disease and Vaccine Information Distribution

At the beginning of every school year, the district will provide to parents/guardians of sixth through twelfth grade students, information provided by the Washington Department of Health about human papilloma virus (HPV) disease and its vaccine.

The information will include the causes and symptoms of human papilloma virus, how the disease is spread, the places where parents/guardians may obtain additional information and vaccinations for their children, and current recommendations from the United States Centers for Disease Control Prevention regarding the vaccine.

Life-Threatening Health Conditions

Prior to attendance at school, each child with a life-threatening health condition will present a medication and treatment order from a Licensed healthcare Provider (LHP) addressing the condition. A life-threatening health condition means a condition that will put the child in danger of death during the school day if a medication and treatment order, providing authority to a registered nurse, and a nursing care plan are not in place. Following submission of the medication and treatment order, the registered nurse will develop the nursing care plan.

Students who have a life-threatening health condition and no medication or treatment order presented to the school will be excluded from school, to the extent that the district can do so consistent with federal requirements for students with disabilities under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and according to the due process requirements in School District Procedure 3413-P.

Exclusion from School

The district will exclude students only as allowed for by RCW 28A.210.120 and WAC 392-380-050.

Cross References: Policy 2100 – Educational Opportunities for Military Children
Policy 2161 – Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students
Policy 2162 – Education of Students with Disabilities Under Section 504
Policy 3241 – Classroom Management, Corrective Actions or Punishment
Policy 3416 – Medication at School

Legal References: RCW 28A.210 Health — Screening and requirements
WAC 246-105 Immunization of child care and school children against
certain vaccine-preventable diseases
WAC 392-182 Student — Health records
WAC 392-380 Public school pupils — Immunization requirement and
life-threatening health condition

Management Resources:

2018 – August Issue
Policy News, August 2012 Student Immunization and Life Threatening Health Conditions
Policy News, August 2011 New Immunization Exemption Requirement
Policy News, June 2011 Educational Opportunity for Military Children
Policy News, August 2007 Human Papilloma Virus Disease Notification
Policy News, April 2006 Chickenpox Immunization Required
Policy News, June 2005 Distribution of Information on Meningococcal Disease
Policy News, October 2002 Legislature Addresses “Life-Threatening Condition

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Student Immunization And Life Threatening Health Conditions

Certificate of Immunization

Immediately upon enrollment in the district, the student's parent/guardian will complete a Certificate of Immunization Status (CIS), distributed by the Washington Department of Health, or submit a medically verified immunization record. The district will make the certificate and/or medically verified immunization record part of the student's permanent record.

If, by the student's first day of enrollment, a student does not have the required immunization documentation, the student's parent/guardian may submit evidence of having initiated an immunization schedule, which will provide the student "conditional admittance" status. Students may attend under conditional status for a limited time. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the student's first day of attendance, the parent/guardian must provide any missing immunization(s) and/or provide documentation needed to complete the CIS. If a student needs additional doses to complete a vaccine series, he/she will remain in conditional admittance status for a maximum of thirty (30) calendar days after the next dose is due until the series is complete. Failure to submit documentation within these timelines will be sufficient cause to exclude the student from school.

Exemptions from Immunization

Any and all exemptions will be processed and recorded on a Certificate of Exemption (COE) as provided by the Washington Department of Health (DOH).

The district will grant exemptions from one or more vaccines for medical reason upon certification by a Licensed Healthcare Provider (LHP) that there is a medical reason for not administering the vaccine.

The district will grant exemptions for personal or religious reasons upon the parent/legal guardian's submission of a COE, signed by an LHP, stating that the parent/guardian has either a philosophical, personal, or religious objection to the immunization of the child and the LHP provided the parent/guardian with information about the benefits and risks of immunization. The LHP may sign the form any time prior to the district's enrollment of the child. The district will accept a photocopy of the signed form or a letter from the LHP in lieu of the original form.

If a COE states the parent/legal guardian is a member in a religious body or church with beliefs or teachings that preclude a child from receiving medical treatment from a LHP, the LHP signature on the COA is not required.

The district will mark the permanent file of students who have exemptions for easy identification should the local department of health order that exempted students be excluded from school temporarily during an outbreak or an epidemic.

If the district does not receive a COE upon the student's enrollment in school, the principal or designee will provide written notice to the parents/guardians informing them of:

1. The immunization requirements;

2. The potential that the student will be denied attendance unless documentation needed to complete the CIS are provided within thirty (30) calendar days of the student's first day of attendance;
3. The procedural due process rights; and
4. The immunization services available.

Exclusion from School

Following proper notification, the school will exclude the student for noncompliance with the immunization laws, subject to the appeal procedures for student expulsions (Policy 3241). Parents have a right to a hearing, provided they notify the school within three (3) days after receiving the exclusion order from the school principal. If the parent requests a hearing, the district will notify in writing the parent or guardian and school principal of the time and place for the hearing and will present the case to a hearing officer appointed by the superintendent.